Supply of Consumer Goods On Subsidised Rates in Backward Tribal Areas

*252. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified some backward tribal areas in some States for providing consumer goods on subsidised rates under the Prime Minister's scheme;

(b) if so, the details of such areas, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the subsidies proposed to be granted under the scheme in those States?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES. CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) Central Government had, in consultation with the State Governments/UTs Administrations, identified the Blocks covered under various area development programmes such as Desert Development Programme, Drought Prone Area Programme, Designated Hill Areas and Integrated Tribal Development Projects for implementing the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). For the areas covered under RPDS, Central Government issues rice and wheat at specially subsidised Central Issue Prices (CIPs), which are Rs. 50 per qtl. lower than the normal CIPs for the PDS. Statewise Details of the number of Blocks presently covered under the RPDS is given in the statement annexed, (*see* below) There is no proposal to grant any subsidy other than the subsidy borne by the Central Government on the commodities issued for the PDS/RPDS to the States/UTs.

Statement

Summary List of Blocks Identified for the Revamped PDS as on 25-04-94.

State/ UT	Total No. Of Blocks	DDP	No. of DDP/DPAP/ITDP/DHA Blocks				
			DPAP	ITDP	DHA	Less-Overlapping	Total
Andhra Pradesh	330	-	69	51	-	-	120
Arunachal Pradesh	48	-	-	48	-	-	48
Assam	174	-	-	69	-	-	69
Bihar	591	-	54	112	-	10	156
Goa	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat	218	9	43	50	-	5	97
Haryana	108	35	9	-	-	-	44
Himachal Pradesh	69	2	-	7	-	2	7
Jammu & Kashmir	119	12	22	-	23	-	57
Karnataka	175	-	71	23	-	-	94
Kerala	151	-	-	21	-	-	21
Madhya Pradesh	459	-	49	220	-	46	223
Maharashtra	298	-	52	68	-	6	114
Manipur	31	-	-	22	-	-	22
Meghalaya	30	-	-	30	-		30
Mizoram	20	-	-	20	-	-	20
Nagaland	28	-	-	28	-	-	28
Orissa	314	-	39	118	-	14	143
Punjab	118	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rajasthan	236	85	30	23	-	16	122

State UT	Total No. Of Blocks	No. of DDP/DPAP/ITDP/DHA Blocks					
		DDP	DPAP	ITDP	DHA	Less-Overlapping	Total
Sikkim	4	-	-	4	-	-	4
Tamilnadu	384	-	43	9	4	-	56
Tripura	18	-	-	18	-	-	18
Uttar Pradesh	897	-	87	4	56	2	145
West Bengal	341	-	34	119	9	34	128
A & N Island	5	-	-	2	-	-	2
Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D & N Haveli	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
Daman & Diu	2	-	-	1	-	-	1
Delhi	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lakshadweep	5	-	-	5	-	-	5
Pondicherry	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5196	143	602	1073	92	135	1775

The number of blocks in Uttar Pradesh is reported as 145 by state government erstwhile blocks equivalent of mandals identified in Andhra Pradesh is treated as 120. In Sikkim, districts have been taken at block equivalents, particularly, covered under ITDP. In J & K, the 23 addtional blocks approved for coverage under RPDS are shown under DHA. Summer-2
DDP - Desert Development Programme

DPAP - Drought Prone Area Programme

DHA - Designated Hill Areas

ITDP - Integrated Tribal Development Project

Incidence of Fibrosis/Silicosis in Mining Industry

*253. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made of the incidence of Fibrosis or Silicosis among the workers engaged in mining industry;

(b) if so, the level of incidence of such diseases in the country as a whole and among specific groups of workers such as those engaged in slate mining or beedi wrapping;

(c) whether any prevention or curation programme has been undertaken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) According to the information available with the Ministry, three studies on incidence of silicosis in mines were conducted as under:

(i) Study at Kolar Gold Fields in 1944

(ii) Study in Mica Mines in Bihar in 1953

(iii) Study in Mangnese Mines in 1960

The incidence of silicosis disease, as reported in these studies ranged between 4.0 to 43.7%. In addition, five surveys or Pneumoconiosis which includes fibrosis or silicosis were also conducted in coal and mica mines by different individuals/agencies during 1956 to 1980. The incidence of Pneumoconiosis reported in these surveys ranged between 4.8 to 18.8%.

No specific information about any study being undertaken to detect the incidence of these diseases in slate mines as well as in beedi wrapping is available.

The existing provisions under the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder already provide for die action required to be taken by the employer/occupier/owner of mines/factories for the health and safety of the workers and for